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IS THIS THE NEW NORMAL?

California horror marks the 355th mass shooting in the U.S. this year. Coverage, **metroNEWS**

Watchdog needed for council: Mayor

INTEGRITY COMMISSIONER

Motion passed to create new role despite charter restraints

Evan Matthews
 For Metro | Winnipeg

Winnipeg's mayor says he hopes a new city integrity watchdog will hold councilors to a higher standard.

On Wednesday morning, Winnipeg city council's Executive Policy Committee passed a motion to implement the position of Integrity Commissioner.

Mayor Brian Bowman said the purpose of the position is to investigate, advise and educate city councillors on conflicts of interest regarding laws and policies governing council members' behaviour.

"I'm very pleased the EPC has

moved this forward, and now we'll move it to council next week," Bowman said.

A report released by the City of Winnipeg states the annual budget for the Office of the Integrity Commissioner would be \$100,000. The new commissioner will not be a City of Winnipeg employee, but rather "on retainer," said Coun. Brian Mayes.

But the City of Winnipeg Charter — implemented and controlled by the province — doesn't currently allow for any investigative power within council, nor does it outline any penalties for councillors who are breaching policies, bylaws or acts, according to Bowman.

The report suggests a request be made to the Province of Manitoba to grant authoritative powers to the new position.

"We would like to see the charter changed," Bowman said. "Presuming this goes through council, at that point we'll continue those discussions with our provincial partners."

“This is about opening up greater openness and transparency at city hall.

Winnipeg Mayor Brian Bowman

In June, the province made amendments to the charter without any provisions regarding an ethics commissioner, and to date has said the city can punish council members without a charter change.

Provincial minister Dave Chomiak said the chances of amending the charter by spring are good.

Bowman said if the province doesn't amend the charter there are still ways municipal government can have an effective Office of the Integrity Commissioner under the current rules.

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Written by Todd Lewys

Discover the Best Value in the city at Terra Commons Move-In Ready Townhomes!

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"These townhomes by far offer the best combination of style, value and affordability in Winnipeg," said Cornerstone Real Estate's Garry & Debbie Hirsch. "Each townhome comes with more than \$15,000 in extra upgraded finishes included in the price. And because they are brand new, they come with a full 10 year warranty."

At Terra Commons, prices range from \$189,900 for 2 bedroom, 2 bath designs and only \$219,900 for family-size 3 bedroom, 3 bath designs. Homes range in size from 900 to 1,400 sq. ft.

A limited time offer makes Terra Commons even more affordable, so hurry in. "A new owner can live free for a year, no taxes, no mortgage for one full year! That's unbelievable and unbeatable," says Hirsch. "These gorgeous condominium townhomes are the best opportunity in Winnipeg, hands-down. You have to come see them for yourself."

Indeed, seeing is believing when it comes to all the amenities offered in the townhomes of Terra Commons that feature fabulous upgraded finishes such as engineered hardwood and tile floors, maple cabinets, quartz countertops and stainless appliances. The suites are extremely comfortable, quiet and are amazingly finished throughout.

"The value these townhome condominiums offer – there are six

different floor plans available to choose from through the four buildings – is the best I've ever seen. Each suite is brand new, and offers amazing style, space and utility. Combine those things with affordable pricing and a great location, and you have a project that offers incredible value in every respect," says Hirsch.

Not only is each townhome huge and exceptionally livable due to an open-concept floor plan, but larger units come with three bedrooms and three bathrooms. And the style that runs throughout each suite is nothing short of incredible. "First of all, the finishes are second to none – in a word, they're luxurious," said Debbie Hirsch. "Gorgeous, wide-plank hardwoods in the great room, quartz stone countertops, maple cabinets, a glass tile backsplash and whirlpool stainless appliances in the kitchen, tile flooring in the bathrooms and foyer. There's even a convenient main floor powder room." The high quality finishes and accessories don't end there.

"Plush taupe carpeting runs through the whole bedroom level – the landing, hallways and bedrooms," Hirsch added. "The earth tone colour palette looks great. There's designer paint throughout all the suites, with new lighting fixtures, including plenty of bright and accenting pot lights in the great room."

All that style is complemented beautifully by suite layouts that maximize space, light and overall livability.

In great rooms, flow from the kitchen into the dining area and living room is seamless. The spacious island or

smart aluminum railing with tempered glass inserts, or a spacious wood deck.

An extra-wide staircase leads to the spacious upper floor featuring three large bedrooms, a luxurious main bath and convenient second floor laundry. At the same time, both the upper and main level are naturally bright due to another practical design feature.

"There are new, huge tri-pane windows everywhere," said Gary Hirsch. "Not only do they let in all kinds of light, but they are very energy-efficient and offer excellent sound insulation. All three bedrooms are larger than normal, while all master suites come with a huge window, walk-in closet and some boast ensuites. The main bath contains a tile floor, soaker tub, and espresso maple vanity with quartz stone countertop."

The townhome designs not only make them feel like a detached home with their efficient, bright interiors, but they offer other features that increase that house-like feel, he added.

Terra Commons comes with its own geothermal heating and cooling

"Add everything up, and Terra Commons equals unmatched value," says Hirsch. "Look around. Priced from \$189,900 including net GST, appliances and all the upgraded finishes, you won't find townhomes that offer as much style, livability and value as these anywhere in Winnipeg."

For more information on Terra Commons, contact Garry or Debbie Hirsch at (204) 489-4500.

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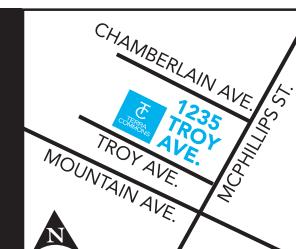
Living rooms are huge, and come Pre-wired for wall mount TVs. Windows are large and the designs offer incredible access to a duradeck balcony bordered by

system which can lower utility bills throughout the year. Each home will also come with R50 roofs and R20 walls, features that will make them as quiet as they are energy-efficient. And because these are townhomes, they're very quiet due to bedrooms being above or below the main living area. A great location in a calm residential area also adds to that quiet ambiance.

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IN BRIEF

University of Manitoba alumnus donates \$5M

The University of Manitoba is getting a new engineering building, thanks to a multi-million dollar gift.

The Faculty of Engineering will see a new building begin to take shape in 2017 after alumnus Stanley Pauley and his wife Dorothy donated \$5 million to the U of M to build it.

This is the second major donation by the Pauley family, the first being in 2012 when he handed over \$4.2 million to refurbish laboratories.

The U of M says the new building, which will be built after the demolition of the Music Annex building, will house labs, offices and study space. **METRO**

Bill to give First Nations more say in child welfare

The province is moving to give First Nations communities more say in Manitoba's child-welfare system.

A proposed law would recognize the practice of customary care in which troubled aboriginal children are placed with other relatives or families in the same community.

Family Services Minister Kerri Irvin-Ross says community leaders would help determine care plans and parents would maintain guardianship.

The plan was first promised in last month's throne speech in response to inquiry recommendations that have criticized the high number of aboriginal kids in foster care. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Baby nation relieved

HEALTH

Breast milk bank provides for infants if moms can't

Donna Maxwell
For Metro | Winnipeg

You'd never know it by looking at him now, but 16-month-old Brody Gislason gave his mom and dad quite a shock when he came into the world 10 weeks early.

It was an emotional time for mom Julie, who had numerous things to worry about when Brody was born at 27 weeks. She was relieved when she learned her 2.7-pound son would have donor human breast milk.

"When my body was not quite ready to produce milk for Brody, I was so happy that we could rely on donor human milk," Gislason said at an event announcing the city's first breast milk drop site at the Birth Centre on St. Mary's Avenue.

When Brody needed donor milk, it came from a milk bank in the United States.

Joan Dawkins, executive director of the Women's Health Clinic, said the U.S. bank didn't allow for a milk drop in Winnipeg where the milk would come back here to help Manitoba moms and babies.

A partnership between Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, Women's Health Clinic and NorthernStar Mother's Milk Bank in Calgary makes that



Julie Gislason talks to media while her 16-month-old son, Brody, shows how healthy he is today. **Brody was born 10 weeks early, before Julie was able to produce breast milk herself.**

DONNA MAXWELL/FOR METRO

I was so happy that we could rely on donor human milk.

Julie Gislason

possible.

"Having a drop for the NorthernStar now allows us to send Manitoba milk for processing

and then get that milk back, so we have first call to get that milk back for Manitoba babies," Dawkins said.

Dawkins said moms can donate milk at the Birth Centre where it will be stored in a freezer — donated by Siobhan Richardson Foundation — shipped to Calgary to be pasteurized, and then shipped back to Winnipeg for distribution to babies who need it.

+ DONATIONS

Though the milk bank can't accept donations until Jan. 4, 2016, Dawkins said interested moms can start the process now by calling NorthernStar at 403-475-6455 or visiting northernstarmilkbank.ca to start the pre-screening process.

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WEATHER

Sunny days are ahead

Evan Matthews
For Metro | Winnipeg

Unless you've already purchased a ticket, Manitobans shouldn't expect a Hawaiian winter, according to Dayna Vettese, Meteorologist for the Weather Network.

Having said that, the Weather Network released their winter forecast this week and the Manitoba winter is looking warm and dry. The forecast includes the months of December, January and February.

"Manitoba will see a milder winter from what we've experienced the past two winters," said Vettese. "Manitoba can expect average temperatures to be slightly above normal when the winter is all said and done."

Normal daytime highs for December are around -8 degrees Celsius, but this year we can expect the average to be around a balmy -4, according to the Weather Network.

Vettese said precipitation levels are also forecasted to be lower than normal.

Vettese said a below average precipitation and snow pack forecast will lend itself to a lower risk of flooding come spring.

She said snow contributes to the soil moisture, and the soil needs to go through its seasonal cycle to get ready for planting in the spring, so it's going to be a struggle for the agricultural industry.



Kiera Fogg puts together a box of rocks in her mother's house, where she's had to call in the troops to help with a rush of orders. EVAN MATTHEWS/FOR METRO



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Helping hand of Hollywood

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Business is really rocking with Paltrow, Diaz on board

Shel Zolkewich
For Metro | Winnipeg

Spreading holiday cheer with a little box of rocks means that there won't be a lump of coal in Kiera Fogg's stocking this year.

The budding Winnipeg entrepreneur is frantically filling orders after her product was featured in Gwyneth Paltrow's Goop gift guide and Cameron Diaz's The Body Book website.

"I thought I was being hacked," said Fogg, after a deluge of orders tumbled in to her site — Littleboxofrocks.com — a few weeks ago.

"I finally asked someone how they heard about us. That's

when I found out we were in the Goop guide."

Littleboxofrocks.com sells sets of four crystals in a wooden box, tied with a ribbon.

Each collection carries a theme. For example, the Warrior box includes an obsidian arrowhead, carnelian, amethyst and clear quartz, intended for those who have, or need, some strength.

Fogg had submitted her product for the Goop site a few months ago while in the process of readying her business for its October launch.

"You know, those forms that you think no one ever looks at. I filled it out then forgot about it."

She's called in her mom, family and friends to help fill the orders that are coming from all over the world. "We've had to open our site up for Australian shipping because we're getting orders from there," Fogg said. The majority of orders are coming from New York.

We've had to open our site up for Australian shipping.
Kiera Fogg

Things got even more hectic when the company was included on Cameron Diaz's website on Monday.

"We got a really big corporate order right after that," she said. "We're working with local suppliers now and we're determined to keep up with demand."

Fogg said sales in the first month of her business exceeded what she had expected, and she was more than happy with that.

"Then it was suddenly like I had a tiger by the tail," she said.

After the holiday rush, Littleboxofrocks.com plans to introduce a bouquet perfect for Valentine's Day.



This River Heights kitchen nabbed top honours in an international design contest. CONTRIBUTED

INTERIOR DESIGN

Hide-and-seek finds success

Dov Secter's favourite part of his award-winning kitchen isn't the cupboards that open with a light touch, the striking pendant lights or the luxurious marble backsplash.

"I love pulling up a chair so my daughter and I can cook together," said the architect who nabbed international honours in the Kitchen Design Contest sponsored by appliance giants Sub-Zero and Wolf. The prestigious contest attracted 1,700 entries from 16 countries.

The kitchen, part of a new home built on a relatively narrow 40-foot wide lot in River Heights, boasts clean lines, clutter-free countertops, muted col-

ours and major appliances that are concealed. It's being called the hide-and-seek kitchen.

"Everyone wants open concept," Secter said. "But it comes with its challenges. You don't want to hear your microwave defrosting something while you're having a conversation in the dining area."

The solution to keep the contemporary kitchen looking great was a large catch-all pantry, major appliances that look like they're part of the cupboards and a slick storage unit in the island that pops

up to reveal a mixer, blender and food processor.

Secter's home doubles as a showroom for his architecture business, Sector Design Ltd. It has to quickly switch from family home to client meeting space. The contemporary design is one that he loves.

"Both my parents are architects so I was immersed in it at an early age," he said. The younger Secter still works on projects with dad Lloyd. "Both parents have been my great inspiration." SHEL ZOLKEWICH/FOR METRO

16

The competition drew 1,700 entrants from 16 different countries.

Giving praise to the Sabbath

BACKSTAGE PASS

Vintage metal was precious in helping Bats find their wings

Jared Story

For Metro | Winnipeg

Mike Peters is quick to bang the drum for Bill Ward.

Peters, the drummer in Toronto metal band Cancer Bats, says the ex-Black Sabbath skinsman helped him to become a better percussionist. That's because Cancer Bats sometimes plays shows as Bat Sabbath, ripping through such doom metal masterpieces as War Pigs, Children of the Grave and Symptom of the Universe.

"Black Sabbath were jazz players. They were jazz guys and they just created this heavy sound," says Peters, who is joined in Cancer Bats by vocalist Liam Cormier, guitarist Scott Middleton and bassist Jaye R. Schwarzer.

"His (Ward's) drumming is not typical and it's really interesting," says Peters.

"I definitely improved a lot from learning all those Sabbath songs. Also, the band got tighter because we were learning another band's songs together and putting our own

feel into them. When we went into writing the new album (Searching for Zero) we were way more comfortable with each other than ever before."

Peters joined Cancer Bats in 2005. A homegrown talent, Peters grew up in North Kildonan and played in Winnipeg hardcore punk bands Figure Four and Rogue Nation, and metal group Port Amoral.

The 34-year-old, who moved back to Winnipeg with his wife in 2014, said he always knew he wanted to be a touring musician.

"My mom has a Mother's Day card from when I was 13 and it says something to the effect of 'Will you still love me if I get tattoos and join a metal band?'" Peters says.

Released in March, Searching for Zero contains such

We were more comfortable with each other than ever before.

Mike Peters, drummer



Cancer Bats brings its Good Ol' Canadian Rip tour to The Good Will on Dec. 11. VIKTOR RADICS

mother-scaring songs as Beelzebub and Devil's Blood. However, the Cancer Bats' choice for a recent cover song isn't going to make mommy mad.

The Bats debuted a beefed

up version of Joel Plaskett's Through & Through &

Through on CBC Radio 2's The Strombo Show on Nov. 8. "Hopefully we'll expand some musical horizons," says Peters

of the Plaskett cover.

Cancer Bats play The Good Will on Fri., Dec. 11. Tickets are \$20 at The Good Will, Music Trader and Ticketfly. Showtime is 10 p.m.

TRANSPORT

\$14M bridge upgrade begins

Ness Avenue between School Road and Valley View Drive will be closed beginning Dec. 7 for construction of the Ness Avenue Bridge over Sturgeon Creek.

Traffic, including buses, will be rerouted during construction, which is expected to last until October 2016.

The \$14-million project will replace the existing Ness Avenue at Sturgeon Creek culvert with a new bridge with a 75-year lifespan.

According to a city press release, the bridge will improve safety and functionality, prevent roadway flooding, provide bank stability and protect against erosion.

It's also hoped it will improve active transportation through the site and improve



Ness Avenue routinely floods in the spring where it runs over Sturgeon Creek. FLCKR/GARY1

surrounding roadways through reconstruction and rehabilitation. For more details on traffic

rerouting visit www.winnipeg.ca/NessatSturgeonCreek. STAFF/METRO

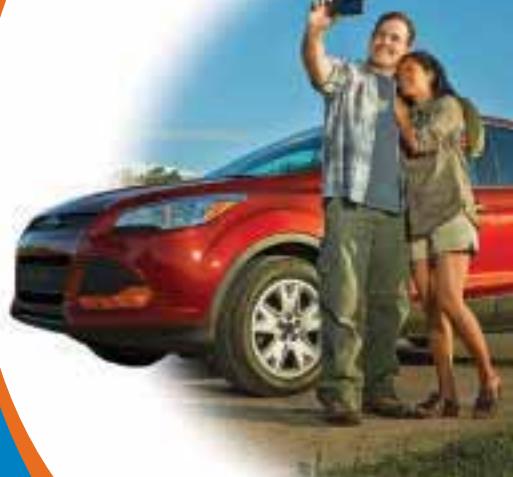
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BROKEN BONDS | PART III



Former inmate and prisoner advocate Mo Korchinski. The idea of mothering a child while in jail "forced you to look deep ... and that started the healing process," she says. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/FOR METRO

For incarcerated women, motherhood can be life-changing. One jail in B.C. was helping inmates make the most of that opportunity. Now, the fight is on to ensure that it still can.

'Everybody needs hope'

Sidney Cohen
For Metro

"If you consent to this call being recorded, and if you accept this call as a collect call, dial one now."

It's June 10, and the automated message indicates Melody Hutchinson is calling collect from a payphone inside Alouette Correctional Centre for Women.

Hutchinson is 25 and indigenous, from Trail, B.C. She is pregnant and due to give birth about two weeks before her release at the end of July.

Hutchinson is trying, desperately, to access Alouette's mother-baby program, which allows women who give birth while incarcerated to live with their children inside jail.

"They're not even giving me a chance. My son's not even born yet. People make mistakes, but people change," Hutchinson says.

The program ran from 2005-2008 before being shut down. Inmates then challenged the closure in court, on constitutional grounds. In 2013, a B.C. Supreme Court judge ruled that cancelling the program violated the charter rights of mothers and babies to be together.

Following a \$163,000 renovation, B.C.'s Ministry of Justice announced the reopening of Alouette's mother-baby unit in June 2014. But since then not one inmate has been allowed to participate.

Hutchinson says she has been in and out of jail since she was a teenager and had a "crazy

childhood." Her father was a musician who travelled a lot when she was young, she says, and her mother was an addict. She spent time in foster care and youth corrections. She tried crack for the first time at age 13.

Hutchinson has two other young children who live together with adoptive parents in Coquitlam. When she found out she was pregnant for a third time

ette's mother-baby unit. Instead, he was put into foster care.

Decisions about who can participate in the program are made by B.C. Corrections on a case-by-case basis. The branch looks at "each woman's risk assessment, history of offences or any court orders prohibiting contact with children," said a B.C. Ministry of Justice spokesperson in an email sent June 3.

It doesn't take rocket science to keep a baby with a mother. It takes motivation at the top levels.

Dr. Ruth Elwood Martin, UBC Centre for Prison Health and Education

last fall, Hutchinson says, "I just wanted to change my life. I was freaked out and I didn't want to lose my son."

In February, Hutchinson says, she relapsed after several months off drugs.

Her brother was about to go to jail for a long time on weapons charges, and they partied on and off for three weeks. She was arrested in March for theft breaching her bail.

"All I want them to see is that I'm trying," Hutchinson says. "To have someone from the ministry be like, 'You know what, we're here to help you, OK? And if you can commit to this goal, than we will help you succeed.'"

Time's up and the call is cut.

Hutchinson served four months at Alouette. She gave birth on July 5, but her baby boy was not admitted to Alder, Alou-

Columbia's Collaborating Centre for Prison Health and Education and was a physician at Alouette during the mother-baby program's first iteration. She says that, in order for the program to work, all the ministries need to be on board.

"What needs to happen is political will to have the different ministries — Health, Children and Family Development, Justice — to actually collaborate over finding a way to keep the babies with their mothers while the mothers are incarcerated."

Brenda Tole, a former Alouette warden who oversaw the creation and operation of the mother-baby program, agrees.

"You have to have the initiative to work with all of those ministries and community agencies to bring back all that support, and I'm not sure ... if the will is there to do that. What's happening right now is they're just saying that the Ministry of

Children and Families is not supportive, it's not in the plan. Well, really, their only other plan is foster care and that's a terrible outcome," she says.

"I almost wish that a lot of the people who have control over this could have a direct conversation with someone that's lost their baby."

Advocates say that Alouette, though not ideal, is a practical place in which to introduce a woman to motherhood and to teach approaches to parenting.

The jail's premises are surveilled 24 hours a day, there is

a drug-and-alcohol counsellor and parenting classes, and the health care centre is attached to the mother-baby unit.

Mo Korchinski, a prisoner advocate and former Alouette inmate, says that a lot of women entering jail have lost hope. They are living on the streets, killing themselves slowly with drugs and alcohol.

Like many addicted women who wind up in jail, Korchinski lost her kids when she became an addict. "(The mother-baby program) forced you to look deep," she says. "And those feelings of a mother — you couldn't deny them anymore 'cause it was right in your face, and that started the healing process."

A recent Statistics Canada report found that 94 per cent of women in provincial jails struggle with substance abuse.

"Where is it going to change?" Korchinski asks, and then emphatically answers her own question: "It changes with the mother-baby program, because these women now have hope. ... Everybody needs hope and everybody needs purpose in life."

This summer UBC's prison-health centre published a set of guidelines and best practices for prison mother-baby programs. Advocates hope the guidelines will help meaningfully reactivate the Alouette's program, which, despite the province's assurances that it is available, has not hosted any of the three mothers, including Melody Hutchinson, who have given birth at Alouette since the program's 2014 reopening.

Broken Bonds

PART I

"A success story"
Tues. Dec. 1

PART II

"It all falls apart"
Wed. Dec. 2

PART III

"What now?"
Thurs. Dec. 3

Today Hutchinson is working full-time and living in Terrace B.C., near her father. She's struggling to recover her son from the foster family he was placed with while she was in jail.

"Her son's here in Maple Ridge and they won't transfer him up," says Korchinski, who's trying to help Hutchinson get custody of her baby. "She has to take a 28-hour Greyhound bus ride down here to see him, and she gets a two-hour visit a day, and she has to take a week off at work."

Korchinski says Hutchinson's going to keep fighting to get her son back, but it's harder now that he's growing attached to his foster family.

Each time Hutchinson visits her son, Korchinski says, she will "go through that all over again."

"I was with her when she went and visited him. I was in tears for her."

Children of war on their way

SYRIAN REFUGEES

Families await flights to Canada in Irbid, Jordan

Here are the children of war. Some were born in exile in Jordan, while others watched their homes in Syria being destroyed and then had to flee the conflict with anxious parents and frightened siblings.

Now their young lives are about to undergo another profound transformation.

If all goes well, these children — and their families — will be resettled in Canada, once Canadian officials in Amman complete medical and security screening and issue them immigration documents.

The children, from five different families from towns in southern Syria, have been living in Irbid, in northern Jordan, and were photographed by Canadian Press journalist Paul Chiasson.

Some are coming to Canada under the private sponsorship

program, while others are in the government-sponsored stream.

The refugees know how fortunate they are. As Canada's massive humanitarian mission gets underway, other Syrians are calling the International Organization of Migration, begging to be among the 25,000 Syrians Canada has promised to bring here by the end of February.

"Syrians are reading about the Canadian mission in the press and they are very media savvy. Word gets out fast. We have to tell them to take their case to the UN," said Craig Murphy, with the IOM in Jordan.

On Sunday the IOM opened a processing centre on behalf of Canada in a military hangar in Marka, north of Amman. Officials have begun interviewing hundreds of Syrians a day.

The first plane of Syrian refugees is expected to be in the air by mid-December, said Murphy.

Refugees from both Jordan and Lebanon will fly through Amman, boarding Royal Jordanian charter flights in



1



2



3



4

1 Tammim, 6 — His family came to Jordan in 2013, after heavy shelling in their village. **2 Abedr, 2** — She is the youngest of four. Her father lost both his businesses in Syria to violence and shelling. **3 Braa, 3** — Her family was originally hoping to go to the U.S. but now favour Canada because they feel it will be more welcoming towards Muslims. **4 Mohammad** — He is baby brother of Tammim and was born in Jordan. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

groups of 300 or 350 bound for Toronto or Montreal.

"As soon as we have a threshold of 300 people who are travel-ready we will have our first charter flight," said

Murphy. "I expect a very quick turnaround time."

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees is in charge of referring the cases to the IOM, for a second

set of interviews. The UN is focusing on families, single women and the most vulnerable, following Ottawa's direction.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

1,015

The number of permanent resident visas issued, but refugees have yet to arrive.

41,050

The number of text messages sent to potential refugee applicants interested in coming to Canada.

9,090

The number of refugee resettlement applications currently being processed.

271

The total number of Syrian refugees who have arrived in Canada.

SHUTOUT HUNGER

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Immediate priorities the focus of throne speech

PARLIAMENT

MP drops out of Speaker race after ALS diagnosis

The Trudeau government's first throne speech is likely to be one of the shortest in Canadian history.

Insiders say the speech, to be read by Gov. Gen. David Johnston on Friday, will be little more than a list of the new Liberal government's immediate priorities, with minimal rhetorical

flourishes and no surprises.

It won't mention every federal department.

It won't recap every single promise made by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau during the federal election campaign.

Rather, it will be a brief recitation of the urgent promises Trudeau intends to move on over the coming year - those aimed at improving the lot of struggling middle-class Canadians foremost among them.

The brevity and tight focus of the speech is modelled on throne speeches in the mother of Parliaments in the United Kingdom, which typically run less than

1,000 words and takes the Queen less than 10 minutes to read.

The speech from the throne marks the start of a new session of Parliament, following the election Thursday of a new Speaker of the House of Commons.

But while Liberals are still basking in the afterglow of their upset victory on Oct. 19, their triumphant return to the government side of the aisle in the Commons has been dampened by news that one of their veteran MPs, Mauril Belanger, is facing a devastating health crisis.

Belanger, who had been in the running to become Speaker, was diagnosed late last week with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis - ALS or Lou Gehrig's disease. He withdrew from the race on Monday. A grim-faced Trudeau accompanied Belanger into the closed-door meeting, which MPs later said was very emotional.

Cape Breton MP Rodger Cuzner had tears in his eyes as he spoke of Belanger.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

He's a great guy, he's truly respected, just an honourable, hard-working guy, smart, more than likely would've been a strong, strong candidate for Speaker. He loves this place ... It's tragic. Rodger Cuzner



Ballot boxes are put in place as staff and pages prepare the House of Commons in advance of Thursday's vote for the new Speaker on Parliament Hill on Wednesday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

ISIL

U.S. expects NATO allies to step up: Kerry

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry has delivered a tough, unambiguous message to NATO members, including Canada, saying the United States expects them to do more in the fight against the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant.

The blunt talk on Wednesday was particularly significant for Justin Trudeau's Liberal government, which has pledged to end the Canadian bombing campaign and refocus the military commitment on training local forces, including police.

Kerry told his 27 other counterparts meeting in Brussels that the international coalition must strike at the core of the Islamic State in Syria and Iraq and strangle its efforts to set up networks elsewhere.

"I called on every NATO ally to step up its fight against Daesh," Kerry said, using the Arabic reference for the ISIL.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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How the day unfolded

• Lt. Rich Lawhead said Wednesday that a call came in just before 11 a.m. that multiple shots had been fired in the area of the Inland Regional Center. Lavinia Johnson, executive director of the Inland Regional Center, told CNN that somebody pulled the fire alarm, and shortly after, the building went into lockdown.

• FBI agents and other law enforcement authorities converged on the centre and searched room to room for the attackers, but they had apparently escaped.

Several people locked themselves in their offices, desperately waiting to be rescued by police, after the gunfire erupted. Some texted their loved ones or telephoned them and whispered to them what was going on.

• As the manhunt went on, stores, office buildings and at least one school were locked down in the city of 214,000 people about 100 kilometres east of Los Angeles, and roads were blocked off.

• The Inland Regional Center provides services for more than 30,000 people in the region with developmental delays and their families, and employs 670 staff according to its Facebook page.

• Brandon Hunt, an employee at the Inland Regional Center, told CNN that there was a banquet for county personnel inside the building and that the shooting happened in the auditorium. There were about 500 IRC employees inside the building, Hunt said. "Employees were locked in offices, closets, just to try and stay safe," he said.

• Police shed no light on a motive for the massacre.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Shooting in California centre leaves 14 dead

SAN BERNARDINO

Police say two suspects have been killed

Police said two suspects, one male and one female, are dead after the shooting at a Southern California social services centre.

San Bernardino Police Chief Jarrod Burguan said at a news conference Wednesday that authorities found what they believe is an explosive device at the Inland Regional Center in San Bernardino. Bomb squads were working on it. The FBI

says it's possible the shooting is "terrorism."

Burguan says the suspects were wearing "assault-style clothing" and were both armed with assault rifles and handguns.

Police were serving a search warrant on a home in Redlands, Calif., in connection with the deadly shooting.

City spokesman Carl Baker said Redlands police were assisting San Bernardino police in the search connected to the shooting that killed at least 14 people and wounded more than a dozen others.

Half a dozen vehicles carry-

We have a pattern now of mass shootings in this country that has no parallel anywhere else.

U.S. President Barack Obama

ing helmeted police drove into the area and an officer ordered reporters to clear the area, and an armoured vehicle parked outside a row of homes.

The action followed a gunbattle between occupants of an SUV and police not far from the original shooting scene.

As many as three gunmen believed to be wearing military-style gear opened fire Wednes-

day at a Southern California social services centre "as if they were on a mission," authorities said.

Hours later, police hunting for the attackers riddled a black SUV with gunfire several miles away, and one person lay motionless in the street with a gun nearby. Officers appeared to remove a second person from the vehicle.

Police spokeswoman Sgt. Vicki Cervantes said authorities had not immediately confirmed whether those in the SUV were involved. As darkness fell, law officers swarmed a neighbourhood about a mile from the SUV, apparently in a hunt for a possible third gunman.

It was the nation's deadliest mass shooting since the Newtown, Conn., attack in December 2012 that left 26 children and adults dead.

It was the 355th mass shooting in the U.S. this year, the Washington Post reported.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



1 A SWAT team arrives near the scene of a shooting in San Bernardino, Calif. As many as three gunmen opened fire at a social services facility. 2 Women speak with a firefighter at the triage area. 3 A police helicopter hovers over the Inland Regional Center. LOS ANGELES NEWS GROUP/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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WEB CULTURE

Ford pickup trucks top most-stolen list

An insurance industry association says pickup trucks are the hottest vehicle for thieves.

The Insurance Bureau of Canada says the Ford F-350 and F-250 models take up nine spots on its top 10 list of most frequently stolen vehicles. The



Ford F-350 and F-250 models take up nine spots on a top 10 list of stolen vehicles. CONTRIBUTED

other vehicle is a Cadillac Escalade SUV.

The insurance association says Canadian border guards are seeing shipping containers stocked with car and truck parts in an effort to fool inspectors. They say they have recovered more than \$10 million in stolen vehicles at the ports this year.

Rick Dubin, vice-president of the Insurance Bureau of Canada, says stolen vehicles are up one per cent in 2014 across Canada, with the biggest jump coming from a 29 per cent increase in thefts in British Columbia.

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Fifth grade students work on programming during their weekly computer science lesson at Marshall Elementary School in Marysville, Wash. The school joined a growing movement across the U.S. to expose more public school children to computer science. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Computer science is now child's play

EDUCATION

Kindergarten kids learning programming in new push

Moving her finger over the laptop trackpad, six-year-old Lauren Meek drags and drops a block of code to build a set of instructions. She clicks the "run" button and watches as the character moves through a maze. She then pumps her fist in excitement.

"Yes! This is so easy," says

Meek, a kindergartner at Marshall Elementary in Marysville, north of Seattle.

This fall, most elementary school students in the Marysville School District are getting 40-minute weekly computer science lessons as part of their core instruction — part of a growing effort nationwide to expose more public school children to computer science, even as early as in kindergarten.

Backed by technology leaders, nonprofits and companies, schools in New York, San Francisco and other cities have committed to offer computer science in all grade levels.

Currently, computer science is taught in only about one of four high schools nationwide with fewer in lower middle and elementary school grades. And only 27 states allow a computer science course to be counted toward graduation requirements in math or science, according to Code.org, a Seattle-based national non-profit.

But there's been a surge in interest in recent years. In 2015, nearly 49,000 students took the Advanced Placement exam in computer science, a 25 per cent increase from the previous year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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IN BRIEF

Complaints regarding wireless services drop

Canadians had fewer official complaints about their wireless communication services but more concerns about their Internet plans, according to the latest report from the telecom industry's consumer watchdog. Internet complaints now account for 26.1 per cent of all telecom complaints, up by more than half since last year. Wireless complaints have dropped from more than 60 per cent of the total to 52.9 per cent.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

BoC keeps rate at 0.5%

The Bank of Canada left its interest rate unchanged at 0.5 per cent Wednesday at a time when the U.S. Federal Reserve is poised to hike its own benchmark for the first time in years. Canada continues to deal with the shock of already-low commodity prices, which have sunk even further and dragged down the loonie, it said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Thursday, December 3, 2015

CHANTAL HÉBERT: ON THE BETA-VERSION LIBERAL GOVERNMENT



In his new role, Justin Trudeau is turning out to be a bit of an Energizer bunny. His batteries don't seem to run out. Time will tell if his on/off switch functions as well, if at all.

It's really a beta version of his government that Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is introducing to the House of Commons this week.

More than half of his ministers are taking a seat in the Commons for the first time on Thursday and a good number of them cannot yet count on the backing of a full staff to see them through their parliamentary baptism of fire.

It has barely been a month since they have all been sworn in.

Jean Chrétien, who was first elected in late October 1993, did not reopen Parliament until almost three months later.

In 2006, Stephen Harper gave himself more than two months before his minority Conservative government entered the Commons.

In his new role, Trudeau is turning out to be a bit of an Energizer bunny. Like the rabbit in the iconic commercial, his batteries don't seem to run out. Time will tell whether his on/off switch functions as well, if at all.

The prime minister is eager to bring in the targeted family tax cuts he campaigned on. Those — along with the costs of the Liberal Syrian refugee resettlement plan — are to be put to votes over the short parliamentary sitting.

But in practical terms, that could have waited until after the new year with little harm done to the 2016 tax planning of Canadians or to the capacity of the government to spend

Ontario is lining up to be the major presence in Trudeau's corridors of power.

on resettling refugees.

Similarly, the parliamentary committees Trudeau plans to put in place to deal with time-sensitive files such as medically assisted suicide or the Trans-Pacific trade deal will be hard-pressed to accomplish much between now and the first weeks of January.

In opposition, Trudeau revelled in his life on the road — outside the Parliament Hill fishbowl. His sense that the fortunes of his government will not necessarily play out on the stage of the Commons may account for his willingness to treat this first sitting more as an audition than a definitive production.

Before this fall, no federal party had ever jumped from third to first place. It is possible that few anticipated the magnitude of the staffing challenge that stood to result from

that feat.

The Liberal support crew that crossed the aisle from opposition to government along with Trudeau was the smallest ever. From 36 offices in opposition, the party in government now has to fill positions in 184, including 31 ministerial suites plus the Prime Minister's Office.

The civil service was always going to play a larger role in the affairs of a Liberal government than it did under Stephen Harper. In these early days, it is doing so as much by default as by design.

The other collateral consequence of Trudeau's decision to hit the ground running has been to consolidate the already uncommonly strong links between his administration and Kathleen Wynne's Ontario government.

Much of the intellectual and

strategic impetus behind his victory hailed from Queen's Park's Liberal backrooms and it is the place the new government has turned to for seasoned staff.

Ontario is lining up to be the major presence in Trudeau's corridors of power what Quebec was in the days of his father, Brian Mulroney and Jean Chrétien.

Past federal governments had an adversarial relationship with their Ontario counterparts. But for a rare time, the Liberals are in power at tandem at Queen's Park and on Parliament Hill. For better or for worse, the close ties between the two governments could become a defining feature of Trudeau's mandate.

As Liberals pour into the national capital, the other parties are undergoing a brain drain of sorts.

NDP campaign chief Anne McGrath has migrated to Edmonton and Alberta's New Democrat government. Thomas Mulcair's chief-of-staff, Alain Gaul, has gone back to Montreal.

The Bloc Québécois has lost the party's second-in-command, Catherine Fournier, to PQ leader Pierre Karl Péladeau and the national assembly.

With no Conservative government in any of the four larger provinces, hundreds of former aides to the previous government make up a wandering army of political orphans.

A hyperactive prime minister may be just what the opposition parties need to get over their post-election doldrums.

Chantal Hébert is a national affairs writer. Her column appears in Metro every Thursday.

THE MICROTREND: Turning the frown upside-down



And you thought *your* yearbook photos of years past were embarrassing. In the 1910s, a murderous stare and toothless grimace were the norms. Researchers at the University of California and Brown University have published a digital analysis of 37,000 senior yearbook portraits from 1905 to 2013. They found the corners of our mouths have been steadily turning upwards for a century. Thanks to our increasingly casual culture — and perhaps modern dentistry — smiles have gotten wider, jollier and more revealing of pearly whites, with a noticeable shift around the 1940s. Smiling in snapshots was once considered idiotic and embarrassing. Richard Beard, the owner of Britain's first portrait-photography studio, instructed his 19th-century subjects to set their mouths in a stern line by saying not "cheese" but "prunes." SOURCE: THE WASHINGTON POST

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview



The Pirelli calendar isn't a feminist victory. It's all about Annie Leibovitz.

It's ridiculous to call the calendar a calendar — or even the product of Pirelli, the high-end tire company that pays for it.

It's all about Annie Leibovitz.

In the past, the company has let photographers do as they please while shooting the annual calendar/marketing ploy/exclusive photography collection that is reportedly only gifted to 20,000 VIPs.

Mostly, photographers shot sexy, naked or half-naked models. Even Leibovitz opted for clothes-free women in 2000, when she first shot the calendar, though her work then was on the artsy end of the nude-pictorial continuum.

This time she's produced 12 moving portraits of mostly clothed women, chosen not for their erotic power but for their economic or cultural might.

"This calendar is so completely different," Leibovitz says in a promotional video.

But the difference is not so much a sign of the times as a sign of Leibovitz's politics.

"Believe me, I do not think naked girls are going out of fashion," says writer and subject Fran Leibovitz, before jumping on the bandwagon: "But it's interesting that people are interested in different ways of looking at women."

Are they? Or are they interested in being associated with Leibovitz, one of the world's most respected and highly paid photographers? She personally invited the

calendar's models — a comic star, a Hollywood producer, a tennis sensation, a modern-art matriarch. Many of them told the media that it was the chance to work with Leibovitz that persuaded them to pose.

Other women, and similar portraits, could have been shot a decade ago. There's nothing about this moment that's inhospitable to sexualized nudity, except, perhaps, the fear of being cliché. It's more a question of taste, in other words, than of politics.

If anything, you might hail this as a moment not for women, but powerful women, a depiction of female accomplishment at rarefied levels. That Leibovitz might want to celebrate that subculture shouldn't surprise — she belongs to it.

"To pay tribute to women at all ages who have accomplished something, it's quite a statement," says the Iranian artist and subject Shirin Neshat in the video.

Not quite. Yes, we should absolutely acknowledge women's accomplishments. We should absolutely celebrate beauty, clothed. But neither should be construed as synonymous with women's status in general.

The new Pirelli calendar is either Annie Leibovitz's ode to women of power, or their ode to Leibovitz, or both, destined for the walls of the elite few.

And Pirelli? It just wants to sell tires.

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Moz gets award for bad sex writing
Morrissey wins annual Literary Review Bad Sex award for a scene in his first novel, *List of the Lost*.

Thursday, December 3, 2015

Five quirky books to gift

1 **On Cats** by Charles Bukowski, edited by Abel Debritto

This anthology of the late writer's poems and short prose honours the animals that touched his soul. From Ecco, an imprint of HarperCollins, \$25.99.

2 **Hillary Rodham Clinton Presidential Playset**, illustrated by Caitlin Kuhwald

Choose a facial expression and pantsuit from among the presidential candidate's greatest hits. From Quirk Books, \$14.95.

3 **Little Miss and Mr. Me Me Me** parody series by Dan Zevin, illustrated by Dylan Klymenko

The iconic little children's books by Roger Hargreaves featuring the goofy Little Miss and Mr. Men characters have been teaching good behaviour for 45 years. Now there's this twisted parody series. From Three Rivers Press, \$6.99 each.

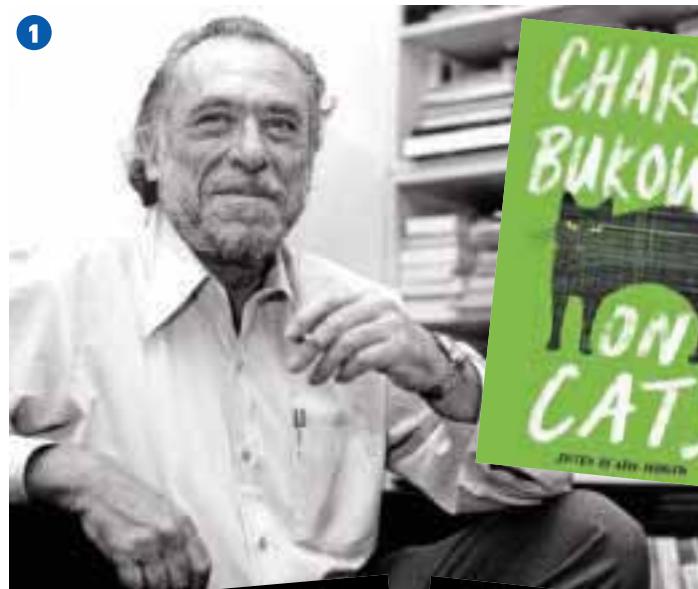
4 **Findings: An Illustrated Collection** by Rafil Kroll-Zaidi, illustrated by Graham Roumieu

From Harper's, this little volume is full of gems from the back-page column of the same name. Rude sales staff boost the desirability of luxury goods, for instance. Also, this: Service sizes in images of the Last Supper were found to have grown by two-thirds over the past millennium. From 12 Books, \$20.

5 **The U.S. Supreme Court Decision on Marriage Equality: As delivered by Justice Anthony Kennedy**

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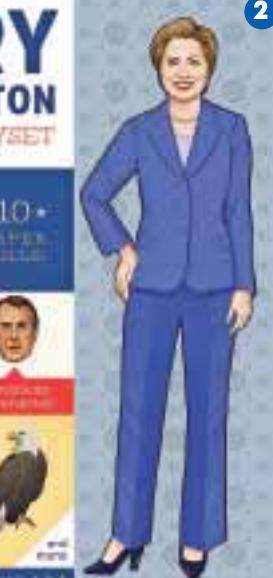
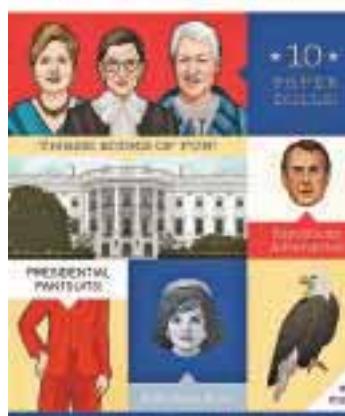


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Twisted cat poetry only Charles Bukowski could have come up with and life lessons from Little Miss are among the holiday season's more unusual books. Here are five suggestions. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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POLICE DRAMA

New Criminal Minds spinoff announced

CBS has announced that it will premiere Criminal Minds: Beyond Borders on March 2 next year. This new series will be bolstered by the fact that it will be screened in the time slot immediately after the original Criminal Minds.

Having created successful franchises from CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (now cancelled) and NCIS, CBS has moved on to Criminal Minds, a series that is currently in its 11th season in the U.S. To lead this new spin-off, the most watched network in the country set its sights on the former boss of CSI: New York, Gary Sinise.

The actor came to prominence in the 1990s with his role in *Forrest Gump*. His character in this new series, Jack Garrett, will lead a team of profilers for the FBI. His division will consist of agents enlisted to help American citizens in trouble abroad. The former Lieutenant Dan Taylor will work with a team that includes Tyler James Williams (*Everybody Hates Chris*), Daniel Henney (*Hawaii 5-0*), Alana De la Garza (*CSI: Miami*) and Annie Funke (*The Intern*).



Actor Gary Sinise. HANDOUT

Criminal Minds: Beyond Borders is not the first spin-off from the Criminal Minds series. CBS tried a similar project in 2011, encouraged by the success of the many spin-offs of NCIS and CSI. But Criminal Minds: Suspect Behavior did not encounter the success that was hoped for, despite featuring Forest Whitaker.

AFP

JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

The right kind of crazy

CRAZY EX GIRLFRIEND, SEASON 2, EPISODE 3 (GLOBAL), THESCISSORSSONG

Rebecca (Rachel Bloom), a love-starved lawyer who's relocated to sterile West Covina, CA—the home of her ex-boyfriend—confesses to her new pal Paula (Donna Lynne Champlin) that she's afraid to throw a party. The lights dim. Paula begins singing what sounds like a typical empowerment ballad: "Face your fears/Stare them down/ Don't be scared/Stand your ground." A few bars in, however, the lyrics take a turn: "If you're in a burning building/And smoke is everywhere/Keep calm, take a deep breath/And stay right there!" Rebecca protests ("Really?"), but Paula, with enough self-seriousness to make Celine Dion blush, takes no notice. As a chorus of children runs in with scissors, she keeps belting: "You can fly, fly out of a window, fly out of a building, just believe in yourself!"

Injecting new life into old genres is tough in our post-reality-show era. Several series



Crazy Ex Girlfriend is a musical rom-com that laughs at itself. HANDOUT

are trying to do it with irony—ironic telenovela (*Jane the Virgin*), ironic slasher-horror (*Scream Queens*, starring slasher legend Jamie Lee Curtis). I admit, my heart sank at the prospect of this, an ironic romantic-comedy-musical. But its creators, Bloom and Aline

Brosh McKenna (screenwriter of *The Devil Wears Prada*), won me over. Their writing has wit; they've hired actors with Broadway chops; and they've hate-lovingly studied pop culture tropes (check out the "Sexy Getting Ready Song" in episode one). So *Crazy Ex Girlfriend* suc-

ceeds as both you-go-girl story and the ultimate send-up of you-go-girl stories. It lets us mock our cupcakes and eat them, too.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

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Iggy responds to Badu diss

Iggy Azalea is no stranger to social media fiascos, which may be why her Twitter followers haven't heard from the rapper since Nov. 1. But being a trending topic can have an effect, as Azalea made an

online comeback this week to respond to Erykah Badu's mocking of her at the Soul Train Awards that went viral.

"We are days from 2016, but I came online today and saw it's still cool to try and discredit my 2014 accomplishments," Azalea tweeted. "F---ing hell. Seems exhausting. Anyway, I've been enjoying the holiday season and I hope you all have, too." NED EHRBAR/METRO

Court to decide if Gollum a bad guy

A Turkish court overseeing the case of a doctor accused of insulting President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has ruled that a committee of experts should assess whether the fictional Lord of the Rings character Gollum is good or bad.

Bilgin Ciftci faces up to two years in prison for allegedly insulting a state official by



juxtaposing pictures (above) of Gollum and Erdogan on social media.

Lawyer Hicran Danisman told the AP Wednesday that she was forced to argue in

court this week that "Gollum is not a bad character" because she got "nowhere" with a defence case based on freedom of expression. Danisman said that prompted the judge to rule that a committee, including psychologists and movie experts, should provide an assessment of Gollum's character. Trial was adjourned until Feb. 23.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ADOPTION

Bullock shows off new baby in People exclusive



So remember in late October when a reporter congratulated Sandra Bullock on adopting a little girl and Bullock insisted the story was totally untrue? Yeah, not so much.

"If I had a second adopted child, everyone would be hearing about it," she said. And well, everyone's hearing about it now. It turns out she was just waiting for the exclusive deal she'd given People magazine to announce the news.

"When I look at Laila, there's no doubt in my mind that she was supposed to be here," Bullock says of her new daughter, whom she's now willing to admit she's adopted. "I can tell you absolutely, the exact right children came to me at the exact right time." Laila joins her first adopted child, Louis, who is apparently already all about the whole being a big brother thing.



CHARITY

Facebook CEO commits 99 per cent of stockholdings

Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg is shaking up yet another sector — the charity world — with his surprise announcement that he and his wife will devote the bulk of their wealth, or about \$45 billion, to philanthropic works.

The move will eventually put him and his wife, Priscilla Chan, in the same philanthropic echelon as Bill and Melinda Gates. It also involves a new type of philanthropic structure that differs from traditional foundations, although details remain scarce.

Zuckerberg made his pledge on Facebook in celebration of his daughter Max's birth.

The Zuckerbergs said Tuesday they will, over time, commit 99 per cent

of their Facebook stockholdings to such causes as fighting disease, improving education and "building strong communities." The couple had previously pledged to give away at least half their assets during their lifetime, but hadn't provided specifics.

The announcement stunned the charity world. The new organization, called the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, will pursue its initiatives through a combination of charitable donations, private investment and promotion of government-policy reform.

By comparison, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has an endowment of just over \$41 billion, which includes wealth donated by the Microsoft founder and his friend, the businessman Warren Buffett.

The new initiative will be organized as a limited liability company, however, rather than as a non-profit foundation. "They want the most flexibility and they are going to use a wide var-



Zuckerberg and Chan with daughter Max. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

iety of activities to achieve their mission," Rachael Horwitz, a Facebook spokeswoman, said via email. "So in that way this is not a foundation nor is it entirely

charitable."

The notion of investing money in companies that tackle social issues isn't new, but it has gained more currency among a younger generation of philanthropists, particularly in the tech world.

In the letter to their daughter, Zuckerberg and Chan described their goals as "advancing human potential and promoting equality." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Cities on the rise



The Claridge Icon condominiums will be one of the tallest residential buildings in Ottawa at 485 feet high. ALL PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

CONDO TRENDS

Tall condos are transforming skylines across the country

Duncan McAllister
For Metro Canada

Pontarini. At street level, the light-filled podium displays a subtle offset design, with cantilevered sections giving the illusion of shifting and expanding.

‘Urban renewal’

In the west, Winnipeg is also on the way up. SkyCity Centre will be a mixed-use tower in the heart of downtown Winnipeg. Rising 45 storeys high, it is projected to be the tallest tower between Toronto and Calgary, with 388 residential units, 60,000 sq. ft. of office space and 20,000 sq. ft. of retail.

In September, Fortress Real Developments opened the doors to a million-dollar presentation centre for the SkyCity condominium suites. “Winnipeg’s downtown is a heritage gold mine, but the addition of modern residential apartments of all sizes is needed to fill in the gaps,” according to Ben Myers, senior vice-president of market research at Fortress.

A bold Icon

In the nation’s capital, things are moving skyward. The Claridge Icon condominiums will reach 485 feet high with 45 storeys and 320 suites, making it one of the tallest residential buildings in the city. Icon is located at the intersection of Carling and Preston, near Centretown.

The bold, geometric edifice is designed by renowned Canadian architects Hariri



The 45-storey SkyCity Centre in Winnipeg will have nearly 400 residential units as well as office and retail space.

ACROSS CANADA

Halifax

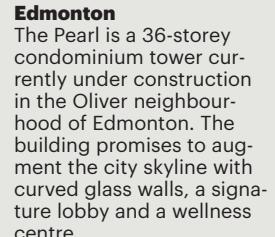
Fenwick Tower by Templeton Properties is a residential apartment building in the heart of south-end Halifax, between Fenwick and South streets. It’s the city’s tallest building at 33 storeys and 275 units, and the tallest residential building east of Montreal.



Fenwick Tower in Halifax.

Toronto

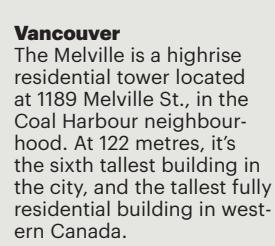
Canderel Residential just released their new penthouse suites high above Yonge Street in downtown Toronto. “While Aura at College Park is Canada’s tallest condominium, it was also regarded as one of the country’s fastest-selling condominium launches,” says Riz Dhanji, Canderel’s VP of sales and marketing.



The Pearl in Edmonton.

Calgary

3 Eau Claire is an urban condo development located at 3 Avenue Southwest, steps from the Bow River Pathway, Prince’s Island Park and the downtown core. At 48 storeys it will be one of the tallest condos in Calgary.



Give some kitchen cheer this holiday

DESIGN CENTRE

Gifts sure to please the chef or host(ess) in your life

Karl Lohnes
For Metro Canada

Know someone with a new kitchen (or someone who loves spending time there)? Look for gifts that suit how they use their kitchen, from the constant entertainer to the serious cook.

The two big kitchen colours for 2016 are copper and red so add a little style to someone's kitchen this Christmas with the gifts you give. Spend a lot or spend a little; but these pairings belong together.



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Saturday 10am-4pm • Sunday Closed

Shaw
Design Center

For the chef

1 KitchenAid Tri-Ply Copper Stainless Steel 10-Piece Set

Give the conductivity of copper, heating efficiency of aluminum and the durability of stainless steel. \$1,100, now \$550. TheBay.com

GREAT ADD-ON

GIFT:

2 Silicone Oven Mitt with Cotton Liner

The heat resistance of silicone with the comfort of cotton inside. \$11. Walmart.ca

3 KitchenAid Ceramic 2-Quart Red Casserole

Commercial-quality ceramic resists staining, chipping and crazing. \$70. TheBay.com

GREAT ADD-ON

GIFT:

4 Volcano Stove Heavy-Duty Trivet

Keep the counters and table protected. \$18. Walmart.ca



For the entertainer

5 Torrent Magnetic Drive Blender, Candy Apple Red

Give 18,000 rpm's powered by a super-magnetic drive force. \$600, CanadianTire.ca

GREAT ADD-ON

GIFT:

6 Baileys Vanilla Cinnamon Original Irish Cream Liqueur

The newest (and most talked about) cream liqueur flavour of the year. \$30, Baileys.com

7 Copper Steel Coffee Press with Walnut Handle

Hand-crafted coffee never brewed so chic. \$58, Starbucks.ca

GREAT ADD-ON

GIFT:

8 Starbucks Christmas Blend Vintage 2015 Whole Bean

Just for the holidays — get it while you can. \$20/1 lb, Starbucks.ca

APARTMENT HUNTING

Renters, consider a cat résumé

Canadians love cats. Thirty-seven percent of Canadian households own one or more cats, according to the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies. Despite the fact that their owners are fiercely loyal to them, landlords and property owners don't always think so kindly of our feline friends, making apartment hunting with a cat a bit tougher than a normal search.

We asked Niccole Schreck, senior brand manager for Rent.com (and a cat owner herself), for her tips on how renters can find the perfect home for both them and their furry companions.

Look specifically for cat-friendly buildings

It seems obvious, but apartment hunters would save themselves from a lot of heartache if they concentrated on finding pet-friendly units from the outset. Luckily for cat owners, "there are a lot more restrictions for dogs than cats," notes Schreck. What you don't want is to find an apartment you love, only to be crushed when you discover you can't bring your kitty along. Some websites such as PadMapper.com have a cat-friendly filter that makes the process easier.

Always start a conversation
"You can talk to the property manager or landlord," says

Schreck. "The No. 1 factor (that leads landlords to ban cats) is fear of damage to the unit. Obviously, cat urine is a smell that's almost impossible to get rid of. If you have an indoor/outdoor cat, they fear they will bring bugs or birds into the unit." A little assurance goes a long way.

Create a cat résumé

It may seem silly, but a "cat résumé" is a great tool to show landlords that you take their concerns seriously and also answers any questions they have about your pet.

"You should always include a photo of your pet, along with your cat's name, weight and any medical information — for example, is it spayed or neutered? Is your cat declawed?" In addition to being a convenient page for property managers to reference, "it also reassures the landlord you are taking this seriously."

Follow the rules

Whatever you do, says Schreck, don't even think of sneaking your cat into a building where pets are forbidden. "It's a really bad idea for a couple of reasons," she notes. "One, you are breaking a contract. A lease is a legal document and not following it could lead to being fined or losing your security deposit — or even being evicted." METRO U.S.

+ 'CATIFY' IT

Tweaking your home can keep felines safe, sane and stimulated, says the author of a new DIY-focused book.

Catify to Satisfy is Kate Benjamin and Jackson Galaxy's followup to their 2014 bestseller, Catification, with both offering tips from cat owners on what they've accomplished with home enhancements.

Benjamin and Galaxy's advice includes creating a "base camp" for a new cat, meaning a defined room or space where territory can be established. Potential areas for caving — what cats do when looking to hide out of fear — should be blocked off.

Also watch for cocooning, when cats go to a movable, semi-enclosed haven to bring their stress level down. A cocoon can be anything from a paper bag to a cardboard box to a cat carrier. It should slowly be moved out of base camp as socialization progresses.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

metro SPORTS

New York Jets cornerback Darrelle Revis is still in the NFL's concussion protocol, leaving his status uncertain for Sunday against the Giants

Jets defuse Sparks, Leafs

NHL

Hellebuyck wins battle of rookie goalies

Drew Stafford scored twice and Connor Hellebuyck won the showdown of the rookie goalies as the Winnipeg Jets defeated the Toronto Maple Leafs 6-1 on Wednesday.

Hellebuyck made 32 saves in his second NHL game, following up a 3-1 victory he recorded against Minnesota on Nov. 27.

Leafs rookie Garret Sparks was also playing his second pro game and stopped 29 of the 35 shots he faced. He had backstopped Toronto to a 3-0 win over Edmonton on Monday.

WEDNESDAY

6
JETS **1**
LEAFS

Stafford's linemate, centre Mark Scheifele, had a goal and two assists for Winnipeg (12-12-2), while Jets captain Andrew Ladd, Bryan Little and Anthony Peluso also scored. Mathieu Perreault picked up a pair of assists.

Michael Grabner had his first goal of the season for Toronto (8-12-5) in his 23rd game.

The Leafs took advantage of a loose puck to score the game's first goal.

Winnipeg defenders couldn't hang on to the puck along the boards in their own end, with



Maple Leafs goaltender Garret Sparks makes a save as the Jets' Chris Thorburn sniffs for a rebound against Toronto's Roman Polak, right, and Martin Marincin at the MTS Centre on Wednesday night. JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Daniel Winnik picking up the loose puck. He sent a pass over to Grabner in front of the net, who shot it behind Hellebuyck at 2:02 of the first period.

The Jets tied it up six minutes later after Scheifele carried the puck down the ice and made a long backhand pass to

a hard-skating Stafford alone in front of the net. Stafford quickly sent a backhand shot over Sparks for his eighth goal of the season at 8:25.

Stafford's second goal of the game was scored from a sharp angle at 17:32 while on the power play.

Scheifele scored his ninth goal of the season, and 100th point of his career, at 1:25 of the third period off a rebound.

Ladd followed up 78 seconds later with a shot over Sparks's shoulder for his seventh of the season at 2:43 to make it 4-1.

Little fired a low shot in the

open side of the net at 10:53 just seconds after Dion Phaneuf left the box for tripping. Peluso scored his first of the season with 2:07 left in the game.

Toronto visits Minnesota for a game Friday, while Winnipeg hosts Washington on Saturday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Warriors point guard Stephen Curry converted eight of his 11 three-point attempts on Wednesday. KENT SMITH/GETTY IMAGES

NBA

Curry's too hot for Hornets

Stephen Curry scored 40 points in three quarters and the Golden State Warriors defeated the Charlotte Hornets 116-99 on Wednesday night to extend the best start in NBA history to 20-0.

On a night when the Hornets honoured Curry's father, Dell, the franchise's career scoring leader, it was his oldest son who stole the spotlight by hitting 14 of 18 shots from the field and going 8-for-11 from three-point range.

Stephen Curry, who grew up in Charlotte and starred

WEDNESDAY IN N.C.

116
WARRIORS **99**
HORNETS

at nearby Davidson College, scored 28 points in the pivotal third quarter. He hit 10 of 11 shots from the field, including all five threes — many from well beyond the arc and in the face of a defender — to help the Warriors build a 21-point cushion.

The reigning MVP sat out the entire fourth quarter due to the big lead.

It marked the fourth time this season Curry has scored 40 points by the end of the third quarter. The rest of the NBA combined has reached that mark just once.

Nicolas Batum led Charlotte with 17 points and eight rebounds.

Klay Thompson had 15 of his 21 points in the first quarter as the Warriors bolted to an early 15-point lead.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Predators lose veteran Fisher for four games

The Predators have placed centre Mike Fisher on injured reserve with a lower-body injury that will keep him out of Nashville's next four games.

Fisher was injured Tuesday night in a 5-2 win over Arizona. At 7:56 of the second period, Arizona's Martin Hanzal checked Fisher into the left boards inside the Coyotes zone. Fisher fell to the ice, and his right skate came into contact with the boards after falling.

The veteran has five goals and two assists in 23 games for the Predators. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Struggling Bernier sent down to the Marlies

The Toronto Maple Leafs are sending goaltender Jonathan Bernier on a minor-league conditioning stint.

Coach Mike Babcock said Wednesday that Bernier would go to the AHL's Toronto Marlies for 10 days once starter James Reimer is healthy. Bernier is 0-8-1 with an .888 save percentage this season.

His struggles got so bad that the Leafs called up Garret Sparks to make his NHL debut Monday against Edmonton where the rookie recorded a shutout. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jays sign first baseman Smoak to one-year deal

Justin Smoak signed a one-year deal with the Toronto Blue Jays worth \$3.9 million US on Wednesday, avoiding arbitration.

Smoak, 29, appeared in 132 games for Toronto last season batting .236 with 18 home runs, reaching a career high in RBIs (59). THE CANADIAN PRESS

Slugger Trumbo heads for Camden Yards

The Orioles have acquired outfielder/first baseman Mark Trumbo and left-hander C.J. Riefenhauser from the Seattle Mariners for catcher Steve Clevenger. The 29-year-old Trumbo hit .262 with 22 homers and 64 RBIs in 142 games this year with Arizona and the Mariners. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CFL

Cornish calls time on illustrious career

Calgary Stampeders running back Jon Cornish announced his retirement Wednesday after nine CFL seasons, three rushing titles and two Grey Cup rings.

The 31-year-old from New Westminster, B.C., was the CFL's leading rusher and top Canadian from 2012 to 2014. But he was limited to just nine games in each of the last two seasons due to injuries.

"I'm very comfortable with my decision," said Cornish. "Over the years with this team, I feel we've been able to achieve everything that is possible to achieve both as a team and as an individual."

Jon Cornish

Over the years with this team, I feel we've been able to achieve everything that is possible to achieve both as a team and as an individual.

in 1969.

"Jon was an exceptional player for this franchise and I congratulate him on an excellent career," said Stampeders general manager John Hufnagel, who was head coach for eight of Cornish's nine seasons in Calgary.

Cornish made just nine starts in 2014 but still led the league in rushing with 1,082 yards.

The Stampeders went on to win the 2014 Grey Cup 20-16 over Hamilton, though the Tiger-Cats held Cornish to 25 yards on nine carries.

The three-time all-star spent his entire CFL career with the Stampeders. Despite making just 60 career starts, Cornish finished his career as the fourth-leading rusher in Stampeders history with 6,844 yards.

"My appreciation to the league, the Calgary Stampeders, to the media and to the fans can not be overstated," said Cornish.

"I've been humbled by the magnitude of what this sport means to people in this country."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



B.C. LIONS

Tedford's resignation puts Buono back at Lions' helm

The last time Wally Buono served as both head coach and general manager of the B.C. Lions, he guided the team to a Grey Cup victory.

He'll return to the dual role next season as he tries to get the CFL club back to the championship game for the first time since that 2011 title.

Buono, who has spent 13 years as GM of the Lions, will be back on the sidelines in 2016 as a replacement for Jeff Tedford, who resigned Wednesday after one season as head coach. The Lions settled for a third-place finish in the West Division last



Jeff Tedford



Wally Buono

BOTH IMAGES THE CANADIAN PRESS

season with a 7-11 record. B.C. was eliminated in the first round of the playoffs by the Calgary Stampeders.

"After much consideration, I have elected to exercise an option in my contract and will resign as head coach of the B.C. Lions in order to pursue other opportunities," Tedford said in a statement. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Last year's inaugural champion of the Beer Mile Corey Gallagher of St. Vital, Winnipeg shows his exhaustion after finishing second at this year's very fun event. He was beaten by fellow Canuck Lewis Kent of Ontario. SUPPLIED

Beer Mile made me smile after Grey Cup

VIEW FROM THE 300S

Andrew 'Hustler' Paterson

What a party the last week was in Winnipeg. The Grey Cup festival and 103rd edition of the CFL championship game made our city the epicenter of fun in the country as we welcomed CFL fans from around the nation.

Special thanks and congratulations should be extended to event organizers and the incredible group of volunteers in our city who selflessly devote their time to assist in hosting world-class events. We see it every time an event of this magnitude comes to Manitoba.

Without the volunteerism of our people these events would be nowhere near as successful and probably not even possible.

After the week I, like many of you, needed to chill for a couple days and recover. While relaxing Tuesday night I tuned in to one of the most unique and

entertaining sporting events I've ever seen — the Beer Mile World Championships in Austin, TX.

What is the Beer Mile? It's a combination event including running and drinking beer. Contestants drink a 12 oz beer, then run 400 metres, and repeat this three more times as quickly as possible.

The first athlete to drink their four beers and run the mile is the winner. It is an event that has Canadian roots, starting a few decades ago

as a wacky challenge among track and field friends, but has now grown in notoriety to the point that the current world record holder appeared on the Ellen show the day before the event and stories on the Beer Mile have appeared in publications around the world.

The main reason I was

originally interested in the event was Corey Gallagher of Winnipeg. Gallagher, a 28-year-old Canada Post employee from St. Vital, won last year's inaugural World Championship with a time of five minutes and set a new world record a few weeks ago of 4:54. I've had the pleasure of meeting and interviewing him and couldn't help but be excited to see him go for a second world championship.

Standing in his way was Lewis Kent, a CIS runner from western Ontario. Kent broke Gallagher's record in November, lowering the mark to 4:52 and increased the visibility and anticipation for Tuesday's race along the way.

The race was phenomenal. In front of a few thousand spectators in downtown Austin, the two

287

Number of seconds it took Ontario's Lewis Kent to finish the Beer Mile and in doing so set a new world record for the event.

Canadians sprinted and chugged their way to break away from the pack, pushing each other all the way to the finish line.

In the end both athletes broke the old world record and the 4:50 barrier with Kent winning in a time of 4:47 and Gallagher right behind him at 4:49. I've never seen anything like it.

Afterwards, Gallagher was less than pleased with his race but resolute in his determination to come back next year and bring the title back to Winnipeg. The budding rivalry between these two fast and thirsty Canucks has the potential to take the Beer Mile right into the mainstream in the coming years.

Corey Gallagher will be back in Winnipeg this week and will return to delivering your mail, drinking beers and running fast. I've already marked down December of 2016 on my calendar for the rematch of one of the newest and most exciting rivalries in sports.

RECIPE Tuna Casserole



PHOTO: MAYA BANS

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

Can #throwbackthursday apply to a recipe? If so, this would be ours. It's a feel-good, not quite straight out of the '50s dinner you're going to love.

Ready in
Prep time: 25 minutes

Serves 6

Ingredients

- 500g package of whole wheat penne or macaroni
- 1 Tbsp olive oil
- 3 cups cremini mushrooms, thinly sliced
- 1 leek, cleaned well and thinly sliced
- 3 Tbsp flour
- 2 cups milk
- 1 Tbsp dijon mustard
- 1 cup frozen peas
- 1 Tbsp dried thyme

- 3 cans good quality tuna, drained and rinsed
- 1/2 cups Gruyere, grated

Directions

1. Cook pasta 2 minutes less than package instructions and drain.
2. In a large pan with olive oil, sauté mushroom and leeks until they begin to soften, about 5 minutes. Sprinkle flour over mushrooms and leeks, stir and cook for 1 minute. Whisk in milk and allow to thicken, 3 to 5 minutes. Stir in mustard and season with salt and pepper after tasting. Add the tuna, frozen peas and thyme.
3. Add cooked pasta to the tuna mixture, stir and turn off heat. Pour the mixture into a casserole. Sprinkle cheese over top and pop into the oven and broil for 3 to 5 minutes or until the cheese bubbles and turns brown.

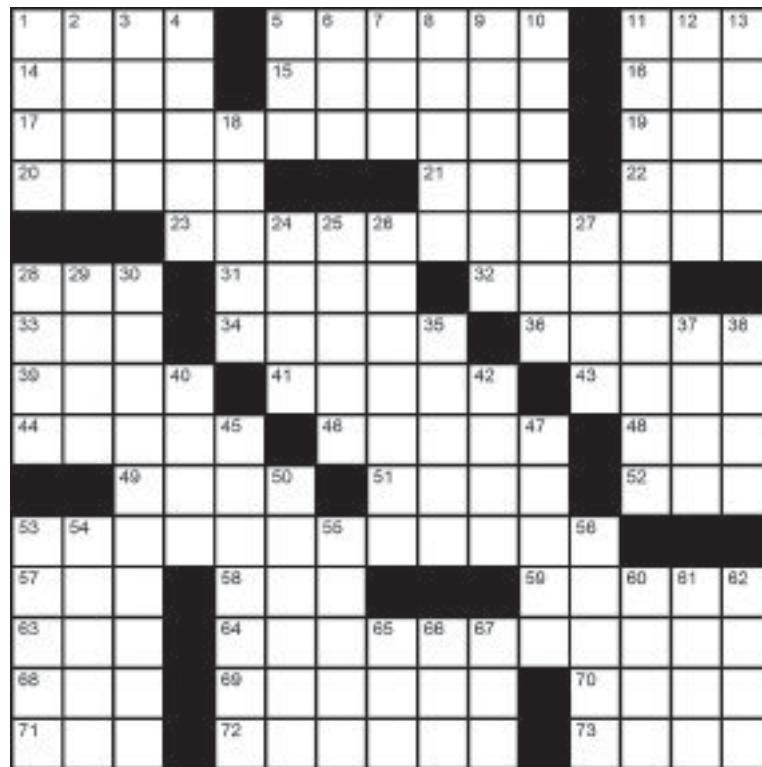
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CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Belgium lang.
5. Finally: 2 wds.
11. __-Fi
14. Early helicopter
15. Housing market
16. Bon __ (High society)
17. Person consulted when there's a problem at checkout: 2 wds.
19. Year: Spanish
20. Computers: __ Pentium Inside
21. Canada's currency, curly
22. Stop __-
23. Months and Meals... Canadian tradition launched in 1974 - the 2016 one is now out: 2 wds.
28. Month divs.
31. Window __
32. Jai __
33. ' __ Canadian' (Molson beer commercial slogan)
34. Hagar's humorous hound
36. "Wonder Woman" star Ms. Carter
39. Jimmy __ (Shoe designer)
41. Outlandish outfit: 2 wds.
43. Cheese: Canadian __ Cheddar
44. Hillock
46. Places
48. 'Fact' finisher
49. Vancouver
51. Princess __ day (Bride's dream)
52. "Hiss!"
53. "A New Rock and Roll" is a 1974 song



by what Canadian band?: 2 wds.

57. Saint John Airport code

58. 'Legend' suffix

59. Doesn't discard

63. Irish actor Stephen

64. 1985 movie for which David Foster

co-wrote John Parr's 'Man in Motion' theme song: 3 wds.

68. Nose: French

69. Mulls over info before divulging it: 2 wds.

70. Stallion's speed

71. Wood-shaper's tool, variably

72. Results

73. Archery woods

DOWN

1. E-J link
2. Hold on property
3. 'E' in QED
4. Web-accessing device

5. __ Vos Prec (T.S. Eliot poetry volume)
6. Writer Mr. Lawrence, et al.
7. "Well, __-di-dah!"
8. Actress Ms. Valli
9. Fashion's Ms. McCartney
10. Royal __ Museum (Dinosaur remains at-)

traction in Alberta)

11. Audience appreciations for outstanding performances, fun-style: 2 wds.
12. Miami Sound Machine tune
13. Koh-__-Diamond
18. Paper fasteners
24. k.d.'s last name
25. Pew prayer's supports
26. Endorse
27. Quebec water brand
28. Candle's cord
29. Comic actress Madeline
30. Music style for Alfie Zappacosta: 2 wds.
35. Extra education instructor
37. Agnus __ (Mass prayers)
38. Finds the sum
40. Margarine
42. South American country
45. Celebrity chef Emeril
47. Belonging to Regina's prov.
50. Mr. Short
53. Ms. Loy
54. Plant __ and watch it grow
55. Putin's pshaws
56. Brawny
60. Ireland
61. Boat part
62. Hardens
65. Baton Rouge sch.
66. Five Guys Named __ (Stage musical)
67. Clip-__ (Non-pierced earrings)

* IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20

You feel you should be doing more, you feel you should be pushing yourself harder — and you're right. You have been lazy of late and you need to make up for wasted chances.

Taurus April 21 - May 21

Don't take what others say too seriously because among all the good advice there is sure to be something designed to trip you up. Not everyone you work with is on your side.

Gemini May 22 - June 21

Everyone wants something from you. Everyone wants you to give. Maybe you need to remind them that you have a life of your own and don't have to be at their beck and call every minute of the day. Be brutal.

Cancer June 22 - July 23

There may be many things you want to change in your life but this isn't the right time. Consolidate what you have got rather than go out and get something more.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23

You may be reluctant to admit that you got it wrong and said things that were untrue but if you want to salvage a friendship that is what you must do. Apologize with good grace.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

Put petty disputes behind you and give others the benefit of the doubt. Some things are worth getting worked up about but the planets warn that what you are getting emotional over is not worth it.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

If life seems a bit too tame it could be because you are not setting targets that test your abilities. It's fun to drift along but already you are getting bored with the easy life.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

You need to decide what it is you want most out of life and focus all your energies in that single direction. Forget about what might have been because it is what still can be that matters.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

There may be important things you could be doing but you must ignore them all and have a good time. Who is going to stop you? Who is going to complain? If it feels good then do it.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

Do something that makes you feel alive. It does not matter if it is unproductive — you don't have to be on the make every minute of every day. No one can accuse you of not working hard, so by all means play hard for a while.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

You've got a lot of routine chores to do and you are not looking forward to them, but if you knuckle down and get serious you may be surprised by how quickly you get them done.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20

If you take on too much today both your body and your mind will regret it. Focus only on those things that have to be done — the rest can wait.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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metro

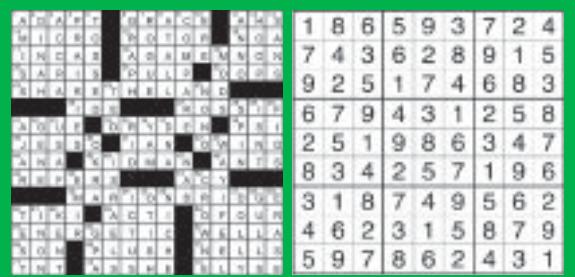
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YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers.

for more fun and games go to metronews.ca/games



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